

POLREP #1

REGIONAL ENTERPRISES INC., EMERGENCY RESPONSE

410 WATER STREET

HOPEWELL, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VA 23860

ATTENTION: DENNIS CARNEY, CHARLIE KLEEMAN, GREGG CRYSTALL AND
STEPHEN LUFTIG

I. SITUATION: (2400 HOURS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1991)

- A. ON 09 AUGUST 1991, AT 0900 HOURS, EMPLOYEES OF THE REGIONAL ENTERPRISES INC., OBSERVED THAT THE #70 TANK HAD DISCHARGED APPROXIMATELY 40,000 GALS OF 97% SULFURIC ACID INTO THE TANK'S DIKED CONTAINMENT AREA. THE DISCHARGED SULFURIC ACID HAD ESCAPED IN PORT THROUGH ITS DIKE VIA A SUBMERGED HYDRAULIC CONNECTION INTO THE ADJACENT CONTAINMENT AREA SERVING A ONE MILLION GALLON STORAGE TANK CONTAINING CRUDE OIL/PETROLEUM PRODUCT. THE 40,000 GALS OF SULFURIC ACID MIXED WITH IN VARYING CONCENTRATIONS WITH APPROXIMATELY 100,000 GALLONS OF RAIN WATER WHICH HAD COLLECTED FROM A PREVIOUS RAIN STORM. THE STORAGE TANKS ARE APPROXIMATELY 30 FEET UPSTREAM OF THE JAMES RIVER.
- B. 1000 HOURS THE PROPERTY OWNER, GARY FARRAR, CONTACTED THE CITY OF HOPEWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTING THE DISCHARGE.
- C. 1030 HOURS, MR. FARRAR CONTACTED THE NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER REPORTING THE SPILL OF 40,000 GALLONS OF SULFURIC ACID. THE NRC SUBSEQUENTLY CONTACTED REGION III RESPONSE CENTER REGARDING THE SPILL. REGIONAL OFFICIALS CONTACTED THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (VADES) AND INFORMED THEM OF THE SPILL.
- D. 1341 HOURS, THE CITY OF HOPEWELL FIRE DEPT. AND REGIONAL ENTERPRISES CONTACTED THE VADES FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE SPILL.
- E. 1400 HOURS, VADES OFFICIALS ARRIVED ON SITE TO ASSESS THE EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION AND TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO REGIONAL ENTERPRISES' OWNER ON HOW TO CLEAN UP THE SPILL.
- F. 1659 HOURS, VADES OFFICIAL ROBERT CLARK CONTACTED THE MSO HAMPTON ROADS NOTIFYING THE USCG OF THE SULFURIC ACID SPILL, DUE TO THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF JAMES RIVER.
- G. 2030 HOURS, PETTY OFFICER PHILLIPS OF MSO HAMPTON ROADS ARRIVED ON SITE TO ASSESS THE SITUATION AND GIVE GUIDANCE ON CLEANUP ACTIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY MR. FARRAR. PETTY OFFICER PHILLIPS SUGGESTED TO MR. FARRAR THAT A BARGE BE RENTED TO STORE THE CRUDE OIL, DUE TO THE POTENTIAL THREAT OF THE SULFURIC ACID ERODING THE STEEL STORAGE TANK, LEAKING THE CRUDE OIL INTO THE CONTAMINATED DIKED AREA AND POTENTIALLY INTO JAMES RIVER.
- H. 10 AUG 91 1100 HOURS, VADES CONTACTED EPA EMERGENCY REMOVAL SECTION AND REQUESTED EPA'S ASSISTANCE IN EVALUATING THE CLEANUP EFFORTS OF REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS.
- I. PERSONNEL ON SCENE:

USCG - 1

VADES - 2

CITY OF HOPEWELL - 2

TAT - 3

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS & CONTRACTORS - 6

- J. WEATHER: SUNNY AND WARM WITH TEMPERATURES IN THE MID-80S.

ORIGINAL
(Red)

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. 1400 HOURS, OSC KEVIN KOOB ACTIVATED THE ON-CALL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM TO RESPOND TO THE INCIDENT.
- B. 2115 HOURS, TAT ARRIVED ON SCENE TO BEGIN DOCUMENTING ACTIVITIES BEING CONDUCTED BY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS AND TO RELAY SUCH INFORMATION TO OSC KOOB.
- C. 2230 HOURS, TWO ADDITIONAL TAT MEMBERS ARRIVED ON SITE TO ASSIST IN THE DOCUMENTING EFFORT.
- D. 2340 HOURS: REGIONAL ENTERPRISE CONTRACTOR, OH MATERIALS, REQUESTED FROM THEIR REGIONAL OFFICE FOUR POLYETHYLENE PUMPS, AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF OSC KOOB. THIS SUGGESTION WAS MADE DUE TO THE CONTINUED FAILURE OF STAINLESS STEEL DIAPHRAGM PUMPS PRESENTLY ON SITE.
- E. 2400 HOURS, TAT INFORMED OSC KOOB THAT OHM HAD ACQUIRED FOUR POLYETHYLENE PUMPS AND WOULD BE ON SITE AT 0700 HOURS ON 08/11/91. OSC KOOB REQUESTED THAT TAT MAINTAIN A 24-HOUR WATCH SINCE CLEANUP OPERATIONS WERE CONTINUING THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.

III. FUTURE PLANS:

- A. OSC KOOB TO CONTINUE COORDINATING WITH SITE PERSONNEL CLEANUP EFFORTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS.
- B. TAT TO CONTINUE DOCUMENTING ALL EFFORTS AND/OR PROBLEMS OCCURRING ON SITE AND RELAY INFORMATION TO OSC KOOB.

KEVIN KOOB, OSC
U.S. EPA REGION III
PHILADELPHIA, PA

ORIGINAL
(Red)

POLREP #2
REGIONAL ENTERPRISES INC., EMERGENCY RESPONSE
410 WATER STREET
HOPEWELL, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VA 23860
ATTENTION: DENNIS CARNEY, CHARLIE KLEEMAN, GREGG CRYSTALL AND
STEPHEN LUFTIG

- I. SITUATION: (2400 HOURS, SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1991)
- A. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1991, APPROXIMATELY 40,000 GALS OF 97% SULFURIC ACID DISCHARGED FROM ITS STORAGE TANK INTO THE TANK'S DIKED AREA. THE MATERIAL MIGRATED INTO AN ADJACENT DIKED AREA CONTAINING A TANK CONTAINING ONE MILLION GALLONS OF CRUDE WASTE OIL. BOTH DIKED AREAS COMBINED CONTAINED APPROX. 100,000 GALLONS OF RAIN WATER. THE PROPERTY OWNER (GARY FARRAR) BEGAN A CLEANUP EFFORT WITH CITY OF HOPEWELL FIRE DEPT. AND VIRGINIA DEPT. OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (VADES) OVERSEEING THE OPERATION. ON AUGUST 10, 1991, VADES REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF EPA'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE SECTION TO EVALUATE THE CLEANUP EFFORTS BY THE PROPERTY OWNER. THE OSC SUBSEQUENTLY TASKED EPA'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM TO RESPOND TO THE INCIDENT.

B. PERSONNEL ON SCENE:

EPA - 1
USCG - 5
VADES - 8
CITY OF HOPEWELL - 2
TAT - 3

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS & CONTRACTORS - 8

H. WEATHER: SUNNY AND WARM WITH TEMPERATURES IN THE MID-80S.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. 0115 HOURS: VADES PARKER AND TAT DISCUSSED THE NECESSITY FOR EMPTYING OUT THE OIL STORAGE TANK WITH MR. FARRAR. MR. FARRAR STATED THAT THE PLAN THEY ARE CONSIDERING IS FIRST CLEANING OUT THE DIKE AROUND THE TANK AND THEN ASSESSING THE EFFECTS OF CORROSION ON THE TANK USING ULTRASONIC MEASUREMENTS.
- B. 0600 HOURS: OH MATERIALS, THE RP CONTRACTOR, RECOVERED APPROXIMATELY 10,000 GALLONS OF SPILLED ACID USING TWO DIAPHRAM PUMPS. RECOVERY WAS SLOW DUE TO FREQUENT FAILURE OF DIAPHRAM PUMPS.
- C. 0630 HOURS: OH MATERIALS MOBILIZED TWO 3-INCH POLYPROPYLENE PUMPS, ONE 3-INCH STAINLESS STEEL PUMP AND ONE 6-INCH STAINLESS STEEL CENTRIFUGAL PUMP TO SITE.
- D. 1400 HOURS: EDWARD MURPHY, COMMANDER COAST GUARD ARRIVED ON SITE TO ASSESS THE SITUATION.
- E. 1415 HOURS: TAT ASSESSED THE ACID REMAINING IN THE DIKES. APPROXIMATELY 20,000 GALLONS REMAINED IN THE DIKE AROUND OIL STORAGE TANK (#40) AND APPROXIMATELY 60,000 GALLONS IN THE DIKE CONTAINING THE LEAKY SULFURIC ACID TANK. OH MATERIALS HAS RECOVERED APPROXIMATELY 40,000 GALLONS SO FAR.
- F. 1600 HOURS: OSC KOOB EXECUTED A 50K ACTIVATION AND

ORIGINAL
(Red)

MOBILIZED ERCB CONTRACTOR GUARDIAN TO SITE. GUARDIAN MOBILIZED A 30,000 BBL BARGE TO TRANSFER CRUDE OIL FROM OIL STORAGE 40, IF NECESSARY.

- G. OBC KOOB CONDUCTED DISCUSSIONS WITH RP FARRAR. OBC EXPLAINED THE NECESSITY FOR EMPTYING OIL STORAGE 40 AND DEMONSTRATING ITS STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY BEFORE FURTHER USE. MR. FARRAR BRIEFED OBC ABOUT HIS PLANS TO EMPTY OUT AND CLEAN CAUSTIC STORAGE #90 AND TRANSFER OIL FROM STORAGE 40 TO STORAGE 90.
- H. 2100 HOURS: OBC, VADES, USCG, AND CITY OF HOPEWELL PERSONNEL MET RP FARRAR AND ASSESSED THE PROGRESS OF THE OPERATIONS AND DISCUSSED THE STRATEGY FOR TRANSFERRING THE OIL SAFELY.
- I. 2330 HOURS: DURING INSPECTION OF THE TANK, OBC KOOB AND COAST GUARD OFFICIALS DISCOVERED A LEAK IN THE BASE OF THE OIL TANK. A RIVET HAD CORRODED AND THE WATER LAYER IN THE BOTTOM OF THE TANK WAS LEAKING.

III. FUTURE PLANS:

- A. OBC KOOB TO CONTINUE COORDINATING WITH SITE PERSONNEL CLEANUP EFFORTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY REGIONAL ENTERPRISE OFFICIALS.
- B. TAT TO CONTINUE DOCUMENTING ALL EFFORTS AND/OR PROBLEMS OCCURRING ON SITE AND RELAY INFORMATION TO OBC KOOB.
- C. ERCB (GUARDIAN) TO STANDBY AND TRANSFER OIL FROM STORAGE #40 TO THE BARGE IF THE RP EFFORT TO TRANSFER THE OIL SAFELY IS NOT EFFECTIVE.

KEVIN KOOB, OBC
U.S. EPA REGION III
PHILADELPHIA, PA